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RUEKJCS/OSD WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KABUL 001677 NOFORN SIPDIS STATE FOR S/RAP HOLBROOKE, SCA/FO, SCA/A STATE PASS USAID

Classified By: Ambassador Karl W. Eikenberry for reasons 1.4 (b) and (c)

TAGS PGOV, PREL, AF SUBJECT: HELMAND GOVERNOR MANGAL UPBEAT, HOPEFUL IN MEETING

EO 12958 DECL: 06/16/2019

WITH AMBASSADOR

- 🚹. (U) Helmand Governor Gulabuddin Mangal was upbeat, yet realistic during a June 16 call on Ambassador Eikenberry at the U.S. Embassy. The Am
- 12. (SBU) Mangal offered a brief overview of the security situation in Helmand since he was appointed in early 2008, describing security through
- 13. (SBU) Mangal spoke of the success of the Food Zone Program, which he hopes will be renewed for a second year. He reported he has achieved be
- 14. (C/NF) Mangal reminded the Ambassador that five districts in Helmand are currently under control of enemy forces. He expressed hope that the

15. (C) Referring to the successful counter narcotics operation at Marja last month, Mangal told the Ambassador that some people had misinforms KABUL 00001677 002 OF 002
Karzai directly that the operation had targeted enemies and accomplished a major success. He also said civilian casualties had, in fact occurre

16. (C) Mangal at first deflected the Ambassador's inquiry on the status of his relationship with Karzai, saying only that "I am working hard at doing my job." He added that Karzai had attempted to replace him with S (SBU) The Ambassador told Mangal that new ISAF Commander, General Stanley McChrystal, is a long-time professional colleague and personal fr 17. (SBU) EIKENBERRY